



Daresbury Chronicle

Daresbury Lewis Carroll

Society Journal

October 2010 Vol. 6

Editor ~ Keith Wright



Blists Hill Victorian town museum in Ironbridge staged their 'Alice' day at the end of July 2010.



*Drawings by Imogen
Buckley aged 8.*

We met several girls dressed as 'Alice' at Blists Hill. One of them, Imogen Buckley, who featured on the cover of our magazine a year ago, was there again and has now sent us a drawing of the characters in the play as performed by the Blists Hill actors.

Daresbury Lewis Carroll Society



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If you have articles for publication or anything you would like to share regarding Lewis Carroll's life and works please send these to the editor:-

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Spring 2010 Meeting Daresbury LC Society

The Spring meeting was held in the Daresbury Park hotel on the 13th March 2010.



The fortieth year opened with a lunch at the Daresbury Park hotel and a meeting in the Bridge room. The speaker was Bill Acton, (right, with our secretary Ken Oultram on the left of him) a local man from Grappenhall now living in Malta. Bill is sure that the Cheshire Cat originated from the one on the church at Grappenhall! Bill is starting a Lewis Carroll group on Malta. Bill spoke of his admiration for Lewis Carroll's writings and how he considered that 'Alice' will last the test of time whereas in ten years time Harry Potter, J.K.Rowling, will hardly be recognised by the then younger generation. Bill thought that Robbie

Burns would have been an inspiration as Lewis Carroll's grandfather was born in Ayrshire. (This is not true it was his father that was born in Scotland as his grandfather was stationed there with his regiment, the Royal Irish Dragoon Guards!) Bill mentioned the Greek mythology that many scholars are delving into and said that he thought that this line of inquiry was a minefield for the unwary.

The hotel had provided us with a cake and this was cut by Sue Markham shown on the right doing the deed! Sue was at the first meeting 40 years ago to the day and served as treasurer for the fledgling society.



The business meeting was held and the officers were re-elected.

The editor agreed to serve as deputy chairman after persuading the chairman George Killip, to continue in office for another year at least!

Daresbury LC Society Local Events etc.

Church Alterations and new Alice.

The plans for the new Lewis Carroll room on the church are now firm and work is due to start shortly once the tenders have been examined and orders placed. Preliminary work on the electrics is scheduled to commence at the end of October as is the removal of some of the pews to accommodate the changes necessary to place the shop area at the back of the church. The church fete next year is to be held on the weekend of the 25th June 2011 and is to be held at the church itself in order to hopefully coincide with the completion of the new Lewis Carroll based room. Whether this happens to that time schedule is still not certain as there have been considerable snags to date which have delayed the project. Building work in a church yard is often problematic as is the English winter weather! The new 'Alice' for 2010-11, Rosalynd Bayton, (left) was at the harvest festival on 3rd October - her first outing as Alice



Davenport's Alice Day ~ July 4th



Davenport's farm shop and tea rooms in Acton Bridge had an 'Alice Day' on the date of the first telling of the 'Alice' story. The Cheshire Cat was there, in cake form (see picture!), as was Davenport's Alice. Davenport's 'Alice' tea room provides an ideal meeting place for visitors to Daresbury and we can recommend the scones and tea/coffee. Specialist teas and coffees are on the menu made to your preferences - these are highly recommended,!

The young lady above, called Poppy, came in her costume and she was delighted to have her picture taken with Alice. The Cheshire Cat cake was destined for a charity event so unfortunately Poppy could not sample it on the day! This is the second of these cakes and they are a masterpiece in cooking and decoration so really are just too good to eat!



Visitors to Daresbury.



We have had quite a few visitors to Daresbury this year including the Mayor of Llandudno, Janet Jones, along with two Llandudno 'Alices', Lucia Harris and Erin Powell. Carrollian visitors have included Angela and Paul Trend from Lyndhurst and Dr. Ackerman and her husband from California shown left.

Dr. Ackerman has asked the editor to print a message to all those who she met on her trip to the UK:-

'My husband, Dr. Daniel Kealey, and I had the good fortune to spend a lovely week in early September with Liz & Keith Wright in Cheshire. Our hosts put together a roster of Carrollian visits that was beyond my wildest expectations! Every day was like opening a gift with a new surprise in it! I would like to publicly thank Liz & Keith--and all of the other people who they enlisted to share their wealth of knowledge and information, including Irene Rutter at Daresbury, Maurice & Dorothy Taylor at Ripon, Brian Liddy Asst. Curator at the National Media Museum in Bradford, Peter & Jane Atkinson at Croft-on-Tees and the staff at the Head of Steam Museum at Darlington for allowing us a pre-view of their new exhibition. Everyone provided us with what amounted to a truly remarkable experience. It was a Holiday that I shall always remember fondly!'

We were able to combine Professor Ackerman's visit with trips to the museum at Darlington, taking items along there for inclusion in their exhibition. We also were able to take our visitors into the wilds of Yorkshire - past the Dodgson ancestral home town of Gisburn in Yorkshire. (Now in Lancashire!)

Angela Trend from Lyndhurst also sent a message of thanks to those at Daresbury who had given their time and shared their expertise with them when they were here recently.

Local Events

This advert appeared recently in a journal. We have sent an email requesting details but as yet have not had a reply. We suggest that anyone interested should ring the White Hart's publicity people on the number shown and inquire as to timings and events. The White Hart is in Stockport Road, Lydgate which although in Greater Manchester is actually on the A670 road, close to Saddleworth Moor, the post code is OL4 4JJ for those who like to navigate by sat-nav.



Visit of two Llandudno Alices to Daresbury!



The two girls from Llandudno, Lucia Harris, Llandudno Alice 2009-10 (left) and Erin Powell Llandudno Alice 2010-11 (right) visited Daresbury and made use of the new structures on the birthplace site in Morphy Lane! These were designed by Christine Wilcox-Baker and installed by the National Trust. The one shown here is on the line of the front of the house and mimics the porch shown on Lewis Carroll's image taken in 1860. Another is over the well and yet another on the back wall position of the house which burnt down in the winter of 1883/84. Had it not been for Lewis Carroll's visit on his 'reminiscing' photographic tour of Easter time in 1860 it is likely that we would have no idea of what the house looked like. There is a copy of Lewis Carroll's image of the house on show in Daresbury church which is open every day.

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